

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JOANNE HUGHES-ROBINSON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

No. CIV. S-04-0247 FCD KJM PS

VS.

TOM CAREY, et al.,

Defendants.

ORDER

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This matter came on for hearing for a final pretrial conference on December 9, 2005. Plaintiff, Joanne Hughes-Robinson and Luther Robinson appeared in propria persona and Mr. Michael G. Lee appeared on behalf of all defendants. However, in light of the plaintiff's failure to participate in the Pretrial Conference Statement filed by the defendants on December 2, 2005 and that there appears to be some issues which need to be resolved prior to trial though a dispositive motion the court VACATES the final pretrial conference and jury trial dates and shall modify the Scheduling Order to re-open the dispositive motion deadline as follows:

Dispositive motions, except motions for continuances, temporary restraining orders or other emergency applications, shall be heard no later than February 15, 2006 and shall be noticed before Magistrate Judge Kimberly J. Mueller. The parties may obtain available hearing dates by calling Connie Farnsworth, Deputy Courtroom Clerk, (916) 930-4187.

1 Local Rule 78-230 governs the calendaring and procedures of civil motions. Failure to
2 comply with Local Rule 78-230(c), as modified by this order, may be deemed consent to the
3 motion and the court may dispose of the motion summarily. Brydges v. Lewis, 18 F.3d 651,
4 652-53 (9th Cir. 1994). Further, failure to timely oppose a summary judgment motion¹ may
5 result in the granting of that motion if the movant shifts the burden to the nonmovant to
6 demonstrate that a genuine issue of material fact remains for trial. Marshall v. Gates, 44 F.3d
7 722 (9th Cir. 1995).

8 The Final Pretrial Conference is RESET to **May 12, 2006 at 1:30 p.m.** The parties shall
9 submit a Joint Pretrial Conference Statement on or before **May 2, 2006**. At least one of the
10 attorneys who will conduct the trial for each of the parties shall attend the Final Pretrial
11 Conference. If by reason of illness or other unavoidable circumstance a trial attorney is unable to
12 attend, the attorney who attends in place of the trial attorney shall have equal familiarity with the
13 case and equal authorization to make commitments on behalf of the client.

14 All persons representing themselves or appearing in propria persona must attend the Final
15 Pretrial Conference.

16 Counsel for all parties, as well as persons appearing in propria persona, are to be fully
17 prepared for trial at the time of the Final Pretrial Conference, with no matters remaining to be
18 accomplished except production of witnesses for oral testimony. The provisions of Local rules
19 16-281 shall apply with respect to the matters to be included in the joint pretrial statement. In
20 addition to those subjects listed in Local Rule 16-281(b), the parties are to provide the court with
21 a plain, concise statement that identifies every non-discovery motion tendered to the court and its
22 resolution.

23 Failure to comply with Local Rule 16-281, as modified by this order, may be grounds for
24 sanctions.

25 Concurrently with the filing of the Final Pretrial Conference Statement, counsel
26 shall submit to chambers a word processing version of the statement, its entirety, (including

27 _____
28 ¹ The court urges any party that contemplates bringing a motion for summary judgment or
who must oppose a motion for summary judgment to review Local Rule 56-260.

1 the witness and exhibit lists) to: fcdorders@caed.uscourts.gov.

2 The parties should identify first the core undisputed facts relevant to all claims. The
3 parties should then, in a concise manner, identify those undisputed core facts that are relevant to
4 each claim. The disputed facts should be identified in the same manner. Where the parties are
5 unable to agree as to what disputed facts are properly before the court for trial, they should
6 nevertheless list all disputed facts asserted by each party. Each disputed fact or undisputed fact
7 should be separately numbered or lettered.

8 Each party shall identify and concisely list each disputed evidentiary issue which will be
9 the subject of a motion in limine.

10 Each party shall identify the points of law which concisely describe the legal issues of the
11 trial which will be discussed in the parties' respective trial briefs. Points of law should reflect
12 issues derived from the core undisputed and disputed facts. Parties shall not include argument of
13 authorities with any point of law.

14 The parties shall prepare a **joint** statement of the case in plain concise language which
15 will be read to the jury at the beginning of the trial. The purpose of the joint statement is to
16 inform the jury what the case is about.

17 The parties are reminded that pursuant to Local Rule 16-281 they are required to list in
18 the Final Pretrial Conference Statement **all** witnesses and exhibits they propose to offer at trial.
19 After the name of each witness, each party shall provide a **brief** statement of the nature of the
20 testimony to be proffered. The parties may file a joint list or each party may file separate lists.
21 These list(s) shall not be contained in the body of the Final Pretrial Conference Statement itself,
22 but shall be attached as separate documents to be used as addenda to the Final Pretrial Order.

23 Plaintiff's exhibits shall be listed numerically. Defendant's exhibits shall be listed
24 alphabetically. The parties shall use the standard exhibit stickers provided by the court: pink or
25 yellow for the plaintiff and blue for the defendant. In the event that the alphabet is exhausted, the
26 exhibits shall be marked "AA-ZZ" and "AAA-ZZZ" etc. All multi-page exhibits shall be listed
27 stapled or otherwise fastened together and each page within the exhibit shall be numbered. The
28 list of exhibits shall not include excerpts of depositions, which may be used to impeach

1 witnesses. **In the event that plaintiff(s) and defendant(s) offer the same exhibit during trial,**
2 **that exhibit shall be referred to by the designation the exhibit is first identified. The court**
3 **cautions the parties to pay attention to this detail so that all concerned, including the jury,**
4 **will not be confused by one exhibit being identified with both number and a letter.**

5 The Final Pretrial Order will contain a stringent standard for the offering at trial of
6 witnesses and exhibits not listed in the Final Pretrial Order, and the parties are cautioned that the
7 standard will be strictly applied. On the other hand, the listing of exhibits or witnesses that a
8 party does not intend to offer will be viewed as an abuse of the court's processes.

9 Counsel shall produce all trial exhibits to Maureen Price, the Courtroom Clerk, **no later**
10 **than 3:00 p.m. on the Friday before the trial.**

11 The parties also are reminded that pursuant to Rule 16 of the Federal rules of Civil
12 Procedure it will be their duty at the Final Pretrial Conference to aid the court in: (a) the
13 formulation and simplification of issues and the elimination of frivolous claims or defenses; (b)
14 the settling of facts that should properly be admitted; and (c) the avoidance of unnecessary proof
15 and cumulative evidence. Counsel must cooperatively prepare the joint Final Pretrial Conference
16 Statement and participate in good faith at the Final Pretrial Conference with these aims in mind.²
17 A failure to do so may result in the imposition of sanctions which may include monetary
18 sanctions, orders precluding proof, elimination of claims or defenses, or such other sanctions as
19 the court deems appropriate. The trial is set for **July 25, 2006 at 9:00 a.m.** Trial will be **to a**
20 **jury.**

21 IT IS SO ORDERED.

22 DATED: December 12, 2005

23 /s/ Frank C. Damrell Jr. _____
24 FRANK C. DAMRELL JR.
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

25 _____
26 ²If the pretrial conference discloses that no material facts
27 are in dispute and that the undisputed facts entitle one of the
parties to judgment as a matter of law, the court may summarily
dispose of the case or claims. Portsmouth Square v. Shareholders
28 Protective Comm., 770 F.2d 866, 868-69 (9th Cir. 1985).